

but to the Guatemalan people I say this:

You are not alone, and you cannot give up. Many of us here in the United States Congress understand your challenges. We understand what you are facing, and many of us refuse to believe the lies peddled by the corrupt political class and their lobbyists. And many of us will continue to stand with you, and we will keep on fighting for your cause because we know that it is our cause, too. We know that a more just and democratic Guatemala is only in the best interests of ours, as well, and we know that you want for your children the same thing that we want for our American children.

I am confident that one day Guatemala will have a government that is worthy of its people, a government that works to advance justice, not to undermine and eliminate it; and one day, the United States Government will once again support the fight against corruption in Guatemala, and together, as partners, we will work toward a brighter and more prosperous and more democratic future.

So in closing I say to my colleagues, we cannot give up on the Guatemalan people. And to the Guatemalan people I say:

Do not give up on your future. Even in the darkness, we must look for signs of hope.

And in 1990, a brave anthropologist named Myrna Mack was killed by a military death squad for speaking out about the abuses against indigenous Guatemalans, but her sister Helen worked to bring justice in her case and helped lead the effort to create CICIG. And now Myrna Mack's daughter Lucrecia is going to be a member of the Guatemalan Congress.

So we must remember Pablo Neruda's words: "They can cut all the flowers, but they can't stop the spring."

A TOPIC THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a former FBI supervisory special agent and Federal prosecutor and as a strong advocate for civility to speak on a topic that must be addressed.

In our country, political discourse has disintegrated to a degree that is completely unacceptable. Political opponents label each other as enemies, and differences of opinion are met with slander and, oftentimes, with violence.

I have never remained silent on this issue. When White supremacists murdered a 32-year-old protestor in Charlottesville, Virginia, I expressed my outrage. When violent clashes erupted in Berkeley, California, in 2017, I also spoke out.

Recently, in Portland Oregon, a journalist was assaulted by Members of the

militant antifa movement. This journalist was covering an ongoing protest and suffered a brain hemorrhage, requiring overnight hospitalization.

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Mr. Speaker, violence and hatred by any actor on any level is completely unacceptable. What is deeply troubling is antifa's history of provoking and stoking political violence, along with encouraging civil unrest, to dissuade those who do not share their beliefs from exercising their First Amendment rights.

In addition to the incident in Portland, antifa has tried to incite riots in Washington, D.C., following President Trump's inauguration, and several antifa members in Philadelphia, right outside of my district, were arrested following an assault on Marine reservists. The charges they face include aggravated assault, ethnic intimidation, and conspiracy, among others.

Antifa has no desire to protest peacefully, no desire to learn from other people's experiences, and no desire to be receptive to fair and rational ideas outside of their own. They resort to violence and eschew peaceful demonstration at every turn.

I recently sent a letter to Attorney General Bill Barr, demanding the Department of Justice initiate proceedings to designate antifa as a domestic terrorist organization to protect the welfare of journalists and also the general public. I have asked my former colleagues at the FBI to do the same.

Political violence has no place in our society. In my career in law enforcement, I have seen firsthand how violence erodes civil society. We must not give a pass to any organization that perpetuates a vicious cycle of hatred and ignorance.

Antifa must be designated as the domestic terrorist organization that it is.

MAKE AUGUST 16 NATIONAL INDEPENDENT WORKER DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MOOLENAAR) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, independent workers are vital to our country and the strong economy that we are enjoying today, with unemployment under 4 percent, wages rising, and Americans keeping more of their own money, thanks to tax reform.

These millions of workers are pursuing the American Dream of working for themselves, including contractors, consultants, freelancers, and small business owners. They embody the principles and values of our country's Declaration of Independence by truly representing what it means to be free. They are found across every profession, income level, industry, party, race, religion, gender, and geography.

That is why I am joining with the Association of Independent Workers in

calling for August 16 to be National Independent Worker Day.

This special recognition of independent workers' vital role in our Nation's economy is long overdue. As more and more Americans choose to take this career path, I will keep fighting to make sure Washington stays out of their way and allows them to innovate and succeed.

I am proud to support all the independent workers in my district and throughout this great Nation.

HONORING CONSERVATIVE WRITER RUSSELL KIRK

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Dr. Russell Kirk, a political theorist, moralist, historian, and literary critic, in honor of a historical marker being placed at his beloved home in Mecosta in my district in Michigan next month.

For over 40 years, Dr. Kirk taught students about political theory, culture, and virtue. He also wrote more than 30 books. Today, his legacy lives on through the Russell Kirk Center under the gracious leadership of his wife, Annette.

Dr. Kirk is considered one of the pre-eminent thinkers of his time. His first book, "The Conservative Mind," has shaped the modern ideas of American conservatism.

Dr. Kirk found his true joy in addressing college audiences because he believed the key to the lasting success of conservative ideas rested on shaping the cultural and moral beliefs of the next generation.

In his books, articles, speeches, and interviews, Dr. Kirk's wisdom has shaped the thinking of generations of conservatives around the world.

His ideas have personally helped me in forming my own beliefs, and it is a privilege to pay special tribute to Dr. Kirk and his legacy today.

CELEBRATING 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF HOME INSTEAD SENIOR CARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Home Instead Senior Care.

Since 1994, when Lori and Paul Hogan founded Home Instead in Omaha, Nebraska, it has provided personalized care, support, and education to aging adults and their families.

Today, this network is the world's leading provider of in-home care services for seniors, with more than 1,100 independently owned and operated franchises that provide more than 75 million hours of care throughout the United States and 12 international markets.

Home Instead Senior Care offices employ 75,000 caregivers worldwide who provide basic support services that enable seniors to live safely and comfortably in their own homes for as long as possible.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the dedicated men and women of Home Instead